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American Research Center In Egypt, Inc.

NEWSLETTER



NUMBER NINETY

SUMMER 1974

Twenty Nassau St.
Princeton, New Jersey 08540
United States of America

No. 2 Kasr el Dubbara
Garden City, Cairo
Arab Republic of Egypt

AMERICAN RESEARCH CENTER IN EGYPT

INCORPORATED

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NO. 2 KASR EL DOUBARA
GARDEN CITY, CAIRO
ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

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NOTES FROM PRINCETON

1974 Annual Meeting

The 1974 Annual Meeting of Members will be held at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, on Saturday and Sunday, November 9 and 10. The Board of Governors will also meet in Boston on November 10. Professor William K. Simpson, Curator of the Museum's Egyptian Department and a member of the faculty of Yale University, will be host for the meetings on behalf of the Museum; he will be assisted by Miss Mary Cairns and other staff members. Mr. Sterling Dow of Boston College and Widener Library at Harvard University, has graciously offered to host one event.

Papers on Egyptian civilization in all periods from ancient times to the present are invited for presentation at the meeting. One-page abstracts should be sent as soon as possible and at least by September 30 to:

Professor William K. Simpson
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02115

Members may send suggested agenda items for the meetings to the Princeton office, also before September 30.

Publications
ARCE Fellow

David King, ARCE Fellow in 1972-73 and 1973-74,

"The 'Abd al-A'imma Astrolabe Forgeries" (co-author with O. Gingerich and G. Saliba). Journal for the History of Astronomy, 3 (1972), 188-198.

"al-Khalili's Auxiliary Tables for Solving Problems of Spherical Astronomy," Journal for the History of Astronomy, 4 (1973), 99-110.

"Ibn Yunus' Very Useful Tables for Reckoning Time by the Sun," Archive for History of Exact Sciences, 10 (1973), 342-394.

Review of B. R. Goldstein, al-Bitruji: On the Principles of Astronomy, Yale University Press, 1971, in Journal of the American Oriental Society, 93 (1973), 566-567.

Review of A. S. Saidan, History of Arabic Arithmetic (in Arabic), Amman, 1972, in Isis, 64 (1973), 123-125.

Review of E. S. Kennedy and D. Pingree, The Astrological History of Masha'allah, Harvard University Press, 1971, in Journal of Near Eastern Studies, 33 (1974), 158-160.

Also of Interest

Journal of Archaeological Science, a new journal, published by Academic Press, 111 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10267.

Editors: G. W. Dimbleby, D. R. Brothwell, H. Barker.

The Journal will publish research papers in the fields of both science and archaeology with the aim of keeping readers informed of developments in the application of scientific techniques to the study of the past and the results of these studies.

Armant, a German and Arabic Culture journal will appear irregularly with one to three sections per year. Each section will comprise one volume. It will include articles on Ancient and medieval and modern Egypt. 5 Cologne 41, Wiethasestr, 66.

Visitor

Mrs. Amira Khattab, secretary at the Center in Cairo, made her first trip to the U.S. and England in July.

WORKS ON EGYPTOLOGY CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS

The list of works in progress in Egyptology which appeared in the Spring 1974 Newsletter will continue to grow as we receive additional information.

The University of Toronto - listing is amended to include the following:

WORKS IN PROGRESS

The Osiris Heqa Djet expedition: combined expedition of the University of Toronto, the SSEA, and the State University of New York at Binghamton. Director: Donald B. Redford (Professor of Near Eastern Studies, University of Toronto); co-director: Gerald E. Kadish, (Professor of History, SUNY-Binghamton); publication in progress. 1970 to present. Bibliography: NL of ARCE 74 (July 1970), 25; NL of ARCE 79 (October 1971), 12f; SSEA Annual Report 1972, 11ff; JEA 59 (1973), 16 ff.

The Pottery from the Excavations at Osiris Heqa Djet:

John S. Holladay (Associate Professor of Near Eastern Studies, University of Toronto); Allyn Kelley (Teaching Fellow, Near Eastern Studies, University of Toronto).

University of Toronto (cont.)

Historiographical Study of Egyptian Historical Records:
Donald B. Redford (Professor of Near Eastern Studies, University of Toronto); in preparation for the international seminar on "Histories and Historians of the Ancient Near East" to be held at Toronto in 1974-5.

Relations between Egypt and Asia, Dyn. 21-25: Donald B. Redford (Professor of Near Eastern Studies, University of Toronto).

PHD DISSERTATIONS IN PROGRESS

Loretta M. James: The Urbanization of Pharaonic Egypt
Ronald J. Leprohon: The Reign of Amenemhet III and the administration of Egypt in the late Middle Kingdom

Brandeis University

Mrs. Ellen Dailey Bedell's dissertation, Criminal Law in the Egyptian Ramesside Period, was erroneously listed as being "in progress" in the Spring Newsletter. In fact Mrs. Bedell defended her dissertation in June 1973 and has received the Ph.D. degree.

The Cleveland Museum of Art (and joint program with Case Western Reserve University)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

John D. Cooney:
A History of Glass in Dynastic Egypt (in press)
The Decorative Arts of Egypt

Arielle P. Kozloff: A Study of the Schools of Painting in Egypt in Dynasty XVIII

DISSERTATION IN PROGRESS

Wendy Wood: Old Kingdom Wooden Figure Sculpture

EXHIBITION

The Norbert Schimmel Collection (November 13 - December 24, 1974)

LATE EGYPTIAN FEATURES IN MIDDLE KINGDOM NON-LITERARY INSCRIPTIONS
PROGRESS REPORT APRIL 1974

by David Silverman, ARCE Fellow 1973-74

The progress which I have made on my project during the time that I have been in Egypt has mainly been in two areas. I have been able to locate, examine, and photograph all of the unpublished stelae of the Middle Kingdom in the Cairo Museum and record inscriptions from unpublished tombs ranging in date from the late Old Kingdom to the early New Kingdom at the sites of Saqqara, Giza, Thebes and Aswan. Work on the third aspect of the project, the examination and recording of non-literary hieratic documents in the Museum, has, unfortunately, hardly begun.

Shortly after arriving in Cairo, the October war began and consequently the Museum was closed, and foreigners were restricted to the area in which they had residence. This situation effectively curtailed all work on the project, but to make the most of my time in Cairo, I spent my days working in the library of the German Institute, studying the stelae of the Middle Kingdom which were included in the catalogue of the Museum. This publication does not provide any analysis of the inscriptions, and, aside from several indices, it includes only a transcription, a short description, and usually a photograph of each stela. Some of these stelae are otherwise unpublished, and, by examining each of the several hundred examples carefully, I was able to record observations which would help considerably when I later would have access to the unpublished stelae in the Museum. Unfortunately, there is still no catalogue of the hieratic material of the Middle Kingdom, so no part of this phase of the project could be done outside the Museum. Concerning the tomb inscriptions, I had consulted the Porter and Moss Bibliography and compiled a list of tombs to examine as soon as travel restrictions were removed.

When it was possible, toward the end of October, I went to Giza and Saqqara and recorded as many tombs as I could. In late November, I was able to secure permission to travel to Luxor and record twenty of the fifty-eight tombs from the list I had previously compiled. At the end of February, I continued the tomb recording project by photographing the unpublished tombs in Aswan and then finishing up the remaining thirty-eight tombs in Thebes. Of course, whenever there was time, a short day trip to one of the sites near Cairo was made to examine another tomb. In the middle of April permission was granted to travel to Middle Egypt, and I was able to see the important site of Beni Hassan. The important inscriptions and iconography in the unpublished tombs of these sites were recorded and photographed during these trips and this information will provide a basis, combined with that from the other facets of the project, for further study of the colloquial language of ancient Egypt.

It was not until late in December that I was able to begin work in the Cairo Museum. Since the Museum was still officially closed and many of the collections were inaccessible, I was asked to begin my work there on the stelae. The file of the stelae was well indexed, and each card had a photograph attached to it, so that a preliminary examination could be done by working on the cards. The hieratic material, however, was not organized in the same way, and, in addition, any photograph of this material was extremely difficult to read. It would have been necessary, therefore, to use the collection directly, an impossibility because of the circumstances at that time.

Although the Museum officially reopened at the end of January, it was not until several weeks later that access to study any of the material in the collection could be secured. By this time, I had become thoroughly involved in the work on the stelae and the tomb inscriptions and decided to complete as much as possible these aspects of the project. I, therefore, continued compiling information about the stelae in an effort to locate all of the unpublished examples, so that I could photograph them. I was greatly aided by a list of fifty such stelae which J.J. Clère had sent to me. He had compiled his list in 1948, updating the original catalogue, and I have now updated it to the present time. The list now numbers over 160 items, and I have been able to photograph the majority of them. I now have records and/or photographs of all of the uncatalogued stelae of the Cairo Museum. Aside from providing me with a basis for my research on philological studies, this work, in combination with the published catalogue of the Museum, represents a means by which one can study and examine all the stelae of the Middle Kingdom in the Cairo Museum.

In my preliminary examination of the texts of these stelae, I have found several elements of Late Egyptian grammar in these rather formalized texts. The demonstrative adjectives p3, t3, and n3 do occur, and there are several instances of circumstantial jw. I have attempted to list as many textual peculiarities as possible, and because of this practice, have noticed the fairly common substitution of h for mn, a trait of paleography, usually considered more common in texts of the New Kingdom. When cataloguing these objects, I have also observed iconographic peculiarities, and I hope, at a later date, to investigate these more thoroughly.

I have had some time to make a brief survey of the hieratic material which I would like to work on further but, because of the limitations of time, have only succeeded in making a preliminary list of those objects--papyri, writing boards, scribal palettes, and ostraca--which contain hieratic inscriptions of the Middle Kingdom. Work still remains to make the list more detailed and then eventually to photograph all of the pertinent material. I have the assurance of the administration of the Museum that this work can be done and that I will be given any assistance that is possible. Considering the immense amount of aid that has been provided to me this year, despite the difficulties after the war, I am confident that the remaining amount of work can be completed during another season.

DIARY OF A DIG

by Elizabeth Rodenbeck

(Reprinted from Aramco World Magazine, Vol. 25, No. 2, March-April 1974)

South and east of modern Cairo, between the old Roman fortress called Babylon and a cemetery known as the City of the Dead, lies a square mile or so of utter desolation. Nothing grows, there is nothing green. In every direction stretch endless low gray mounds.

Unpromising? Perhaps. But those heaps of dirt are worth another look, for they are not just dirt. They are the rubbish dumps of Cairo, and have been there for the last 800 years. Underneath them, sometimes as much as 18 feet down, lie the foundations and remains of a city that flowered 1,000 years ago, Fustat, City of the Tent, founded in the 7th century by the Muslim conquerors of Egypt.

For some 500 years after the Arab conquest of Egypt, Fustat flourished as a center of commerce and trade which extended east to China and west to Spain. In the 10th century, however, the Fatimids came to Egypt from Tunisia to found a city nearby: Cairo, soon to be the center of a new caliphate and a new empire.

Two hundred years later Fustat was little more than a memory. To stave off the Crusaders in 1168, Fustat was burned and later vanished under the low gray mounds by the City of the Dead.

In the 20th Century, archeologists have uncovered a great complex of streets and houses and retrieved ceramics, glass and woodwork. Some are still at it and one of those involved in this work is the author of this sketch.

I was a midwestern housewife and until 1971 spent most of my time looking after my family, shopping and chauffeuring the children to school. Then, in the fall of that year, my husband returned to teaching at the American University in Cairo (A.U.C.) after four years at the University of Michigan. We renewed an old acquaintance with Dr. George Scanlon, the American archeologist who has been excavating at Fustat since 1964, and suddenly there I was being asked to join an archeological expedition in Egypt as a pot sorter and artist! I had taken courses in Islamic Art, I have a good eye and a steady hand at drawing, but best of all, from Dr. Scanlon's point of view, I would be in Cairo at the right time.

It meant abandoning my family to the uncertain hazards of cook and nanny for two months. It meant getting up every morning at 6 a.m., driving to Fustat and squatting on a campstool for two or three hours a day. And it meant learning a cryptic terminology as I pawed through heaps of Mameluke and Fatimid graffiti and tried to distinguish between lead, tin and siliceous glazes, or to identify a Coptic doll, a glass weight, a piece of stucco sculpture. But I didn't hesitate and for the next two months joined the dig.

The other members of the expedition were Dr. Wladislaw Kubiak, the deputy director, and Antoni Ostrasz, the architect, both from Poland; John Forsyte, a history student and novice like myself, who sat in my vicinity on his campstool most mornings; Clare, a glamorous lady draftsman with auburn hair, pencil behind the ear, who kindly guided me through my first tottering steps as an archeological artist; and two raven-haired undergraduate nymphs from A.U.C. With them I shared joys, troubles, cigarettes, coffee and jokes.

After the day's pot-sorting was finished, we would move to a massive book, wherein are recorded details of all the trophies from Fustat found in the past five seasons. Similar information was also recorded on cards and the objects would be sketched and put for safekeeping into shoe boxes or, if valuable, into locked wooden boxes. When work stopped around one o'clock my motherly instincts struggled to reassert themselves; flagging and famished I went home.

Meanwhile about 200 yards south of the tent area our team of Quftis did the work of digging. Named for Quft, their home village in Upper Egypt near Luxor, Quftis have been trained archeological diggers since the time of Sir Flinders Petrie in the late 19th century and have become the labor force upon which most archeologists in Egypt rely. They are highly skilled in carefully laying bare stratum after stratum of the excavation, without damaging potsherds and other artifacts.

The foundations and remains of 8th-through 11th-century Islamic buildings, - areas of flooring, sections of wall, steps, lintels - and water courses constitute a fascinating three-dimensional jigsaw puzzle. To piece together the puzzle required painstaking study which I noted, day by day, in what would be my diary of a dig.

Saturday, September 18. The day I have been looking forward to for months has arrived. I turned off the main highway between barren hills toward the Cairo city dump and walked south. Three tents appeared above the rubble in the early morning haze, then four more lower down the slope. In the distance, a ring of

mosques, the cries and clatter of the city faint on the fringes of the emptiness. The sand around the tents was raked and clean. Eight baskets of potsherds stood against one canvas wall. Antoni, the Polish architect, was there and introduced himself and two other helpers, who lost no time in putting me to work.

They first initiated me into the business of sorting the potsherds into a clean plastic sheet. In each basket were 200 or 300 pieces of broken pottery, most of them locally made. More interesting and obscure pieces invited closer scrutiny: there were imported wares from Spain, Tunisia, the Eastern Mediterranean, Persia and China; then there were small bottles and fragments of delicately shaded glass, wooden spoons, ivory backgammon pieces, beads, coins, stucco, metal and bone, combs, kohl (mascara) sticks, and other ancient household debris. I puzzled slowly over my baskets for about two and a half hours. Then one of my new colleagues explained how to draw the objects which merited registration and how to take precise measurements. It is a trial to my soul to be so absolutely accurate, and to resist the temptation to make a drawing look as one thinks it ought to look rather than as it really does look.

Monday, September 20. I did a lot of sorting, making very tentative distinctions, then went down to see the human bulldozers at work clearing off the mounds. Strings of men and boys were hauling baskets of dirt up the hill from the level of the excavations, silhouetted against the skyline, chanting to the lead of the old rais. The coffee boy brought a kettle of hot water from his Primus stove somewhere behind the scenes, and we had a welcome cup of coffee. I continued to struggle with drawings and with my own high-handed attitude toward facts.

Tuesday, September 21. I find leading a double life, wife-mother/pot sorter-artist, a bit taxing physically, but the dividends are worth the expenditure. I got very discouraged trying to draw a sort of multifaceted but irregular lump of pentametric marble of inexplicable origin and purpose. I went to see the Quftis, but was mystified by the jigsaw puzzle of the dig.

Wednesday, September 22. I labor on my apprentice drawings. The girls are critical of my accuracy.

Thursday, September 23. I went exploring the site with a map. The categories of pottery are coming a little clearer. Keep the faith and perhaps light will dawn. They are excavating one of the drainage pits, and today they found an unglazed amphora, rosy, Roman-looking and undamaged. Curved lip, narrow neck, sloping shoulder, bulbous body and pointed bottom! To be drawn to scale, reduced to a quarter of its original size.

Monday, September 27. I went to work at 6:45 a.m. and saw the sun rise as we drove along the Corniche beside the Nile. The whole city lay misty and pearly, bathed in an apricot haze. The camp was cool and quiet. The mudir told us marvelous tales of previous seasons, while I was trying to reproduce accurately dribbles of green and yellow glaze on an ancient, significant but unattractive pot.

Wednesday, September 29. This morning I went very early and sorted three or four baskets. Then I drew a complicated small piece of carved wood with scrolls and leaves - probably an inset in a screen or piece of furniture; wood, being rare, was used conservatively and lovingly by early Islamic architects and artisans. I had a long talk with the mufetish, or government inspector, Midhat.

Thursday, September 30. Today was bi-weekly payday. The mudir arrived about 11:30, hot and bothered, having spent three hours at the bank because they hadn't enough five-piaster notes. The Quftis and all the 150 workers straggled up from the bottom of the mounds to the pay tent where Dr. Scanlon and Antoni sat behind a table, a pile of money in front of them. Next to Dr. Scanlon on his right sat Ramadan, calling out the names in a rasping voice, specifying how much each man had earned, getting them to sign their names as they received their money. Next to Ramadan in the door of the tent sat the blue-robed rais, a man of considerable dignity, who very graciously motioned me to a chair, ordered me a glass of water and gave me a cigarette. Most of the younger men could write, quite a lot of the older ones had seals with their names on them, and one or two had no seal and let Ramadan take their thumbs, press them in the purple ink and then in the space for their names. There were at least eight or nine very old men with seamed faces who looked tired after six hours hoeing and carrying dirt in the hot sun. Then they ranged all the way down in age to the youngest, who appeared no more than eight, and who still had a look of merry curiosity in his eye, an antediluvian tennis hat on his head and red sneakers. They waited, shuffling their feet, their eyelashes full of dust.

Saturday, October 2. A hydraulic chemist from Detroit came looking for soil samples from the pits, which acted as sewers as well as repositories of broken crockery and therefore were the receptacle of plenty of germs and microbes beautifully preserved in uric acid crystals.

Saturday, October 8. Today we had a tour of the elaborate drainage tunnels under the foundations of a large Fatimid house. We were let one by one down a pit and walked for several yards underground, expecting to find the entrance to a cave. Then we received an explanation of the funerary route which they are uncovering. It is not a very wide street, running from west to

east, from Old Cairo to the Tulunid graveyard east of Fustat. The road pre-dates the houses and the lowest level of the roads is all seventh and eighth century. Dates are established by means of glass weights, coins and pottery types.

Sunday, October 17. The tempo has changed a little now that they have finished clearing away the rubble and are concentrating more on careful clearing of pits, canals and foundations. Not so much stuff comes up to be sorted, and it is of a different nature and mostly from the early period; there is very little glazed ware, a lot of redware, some tinted glass, and some precious pieces of white Chinese porcelain. Dredged up from the undisturbed strata of the pits, these items are of far more value as scientific dating materials than the potsherds from the rubbish dumps, and must therefore be preserved and recorded with greater attention.

Today we went for a long walk with Midhat, the inspector, across Fustat, first to a 10th century Fatimid house reconstructed by an Egyptian archeological team, which gives some idea of the type of structure that would have stood over our foundations. There are interesting variations of brick and stonework in the walls and vaults. Then we went over the mounds to the current Egyptian-supervised dig, where we were greeted by another chorus of cheerful Quftis. They have uncovered a long section of water pipe running through the garden of a house and off towards the wall of Saladin, all embedded in masonry with special devices for making the water run uphill.

Our dig is becoming one of the attractions of Cairo. More visitors: the treasure box is displayed and our precious objects taken out of their cotton wrappings to be admired, especially two prize pieces found in a pit: a lustre albarello with coppery gold peacocks facing each other, and an exquisite silvery white glass ewer with small pointed pouring lip and moulded decoration of a geometrical fountain.

Tuesday, October 19. The mudir came with a svelte former ambassadress in tow who was borne off in wonder to view pits, canals and Quftis at work. The contents of the treasure-box were displayed with consummate showmanship and an invitation extended to lunch on the houseboat where the team lives.

Wednesday, October 20. It is the first day of Ramadan, the Islamic month of fasting. By noon the Quftis, who have had nothing to eat or drink since dawn, are looking peaked and drawn. They will fast until sunset. The sun is paler and an almost chilly wind is blowing through our camp. I sorted the pots by myself; John was down among the foundations supervising and recording a section of the east-west street, which looks like a slice from a rather gritty layer cake.

Monday, November 1. I laid out five baskets of unglazed redware and tried to get the hang of recording it from Dr. Kubiak. Imported wares from the Eastern Mediterranean are his special pets, and he spends the morning prowling round the plastic where the sherds are laid out, rapt in contemplation, whistling to himself.

Tuesday, November 2. Plenty of work. Many objects to be registered and drawn, many baskets of different things to be laid out and recorded. Rather a feverish atmosphere hangs over the camp. People are a bit edgy - apparently a common complaint of archeological expeditions after the first excitement has worn off. But the weather is glorious: it actually rained, the dust was laid, and the earth refreshed. In a last bid to find more treasure, a makeshift pump was set up and buckets full of muddy water dredged up from the bottom of a couple of flooded pits. Alas, no dramatic results.

Tuesday, November 9. We are winding up the dig. All but five of the Quftis were paid off; they dismantled their tents and left on the train for Quft. I typed up the mudir's interim report, a gutsy document. Everything has to be sorted out, photographed and disposed of. I laid out for photography all the special potsherds, glass, beads, wood, marble, stucco - an intriguing but at times rather exhausting job, as it involves so much bending over. Even the least interesting objects still have subtle color, texture, shape, and one could spend hours setting them up for arty shots. Time rather than quality was of the essence, however, so ingots, wasters and kiln furniture got rather summary treatment.

Sunday, November 14. We finally lined everything up. John and I sat in the grid where all the contents of the pits and foundations had been carefully kept and examined, but were no longer inherently useful. We heaved them into the huge slit trenches left from previous soundings. The contents of the tents were packed up and neatly labeled by Clare. All the tents but one were dismantled; a white horse and a black donkey appeared with gharrys. All was loaded up and taken away to the storeroom.

Wednesday, November 17. Today, I witnessed the dismantling of the last tent, the mudir in an orange sweater with hatband to match and in, for him, a very bad temper, engaged in a game called "waiting for the inspector." We eventually proceeded to the storehouse. Our progress was hampered for most of the way by a good-natured multitude of people in holiday spirits. Piled onto flat-bottomed donkey carts in bright-colored confusion dramatically set off by the black mevelas of the older women, the whole populace, it seemed, was making its way to the

graveyards east of Fustat to celebrate the Little Bairam, the end of the Ramadan fast, with oranges and sugar cakes to be eaten in the company of the dead. This custom is extremely ancient, and dates back to Pharaonic times, a thousand and more years before the advent of Islam.

The storehouse stands in a moon landscape in the southwestern section of Fustat, which was excavated 40 or so years ago. It is quiet and cool inside, lined with dozens of boxes of loot from previous years. The few remaining unrecorded objects still had to be drawn - a zoomorphic head of a marmoset with a lopsided mouth and pop eyes, a reconstructed redware pitcher, an ibex head, two sherds of Mameluke graffiti - one depicting an eagle pouncing on its prey and the other a hand holding the legs of a falcon; the beautiful green glass bottle, delicately shaped and fluted, that my husband had reconstructed out of a dozen fragments during a visit to Fustat, now stuffed with cotton-wool and swathed in string, and a complete early Aladdin's lamp decorated with hearts and sprigs. Also a complete gulla (water bottle) filter, lavishly intricate for such a common household object, thanks to the exuberance and fancy of the Fatimid potters.

No more rising at crack of dawn to go to the rubbish dumps, but I spent two more leisurely weeks inking drawings and typing entries on the houseboat in the surprising chill of late November and early December. With the sunlight falling across the Nile and through the bow window onto the worktable, Clare and I made inked drawings, typed cards and knew the 177 registered objects of the '71 season by heart by the time December arrived.

The team flew off to various parts of the world one by one, Dr. Scanlon and Dr. Kubiak bearing copious documentation to be labored over and compiled into scholarly shape during the coming months, while I was quickly engulfed by household and family and their multiple demands once more.

FOOTNOTES TO PRESIDENT NIXON'S VISIT TO EGYPT

by John Dorman

The details of the tumultuous welcome which President and Mrs. Nixon received during their three-day state visit to Egypt from June 12-14 have been amply covered by the information media. For the Egyptians it was a memorable occasion, widely hailed as an important landmark in the history of U.S.-Egyptian relations.

Cairo has had much experience in organizing official welcomes for chiefs of state and, although there had been little advance notice, the stage had been set for this occasion. American flags blossomed alongside Egyptian flags on every lamp post along the route the motorcade was to travel, triumphal arches were erected along the airport road, banners in Arabic and English ("Nixon, Man of Peace," "In Nixon we trust," "Keep it up, Nixon," and "You have our confidence, Nixon") were strung across the streets, and welcoming posters bearing photographs of Nixon and Sadat under the American and Egyptian flags were erected at the more important intersections of the city. On the day of the Nixons' arrival, trucks full of workers shouting "Sa-dat! Nix-on!" passed through the midan under the Center's windows on their way to the airport. Arrangements had been made for the local television, which ordinarily does not come on until 6 p.m., to cover the 2:45 p.m. arrival and all subsequent events relating to the visit.

But if the official welcome had been structured, it was apparent from the start that the number of Egyptians of all classes who turned out to see President Nixon, their spontaneity and their sustained enthusiasm far exceeded anything which the officials could have planned or even could have wished for. Old vintage American flags of various sizes and containing various numbers of stars appeared over many of the shops to supplement the official flags produced in large quantities by the municipality for the occasion. The city took on a holiday atmosphere. One Egyptian friend called excitedly to say she had just seen President Nixon through field glasses from her apartment window as his motorcade passed the foot of her street one block away. Another considered himself particularly fortunate since the motorcade had stopped right under his balcony while President Nixon got out of his car to greet a small band of musicians from Upper Egypt which was serenading the passing motorcade from a street corner.

The banquet given in the gardens of the Kubbeh Palace by President and Mrs. Sadat for President and Mrs. Nixon on the night of their arrival was dignified, cordial, and carefully planned. Colored lights were strung among the branches of some of the larger trees, others were flood-lit, and most of the palm trees were hung with clusters of yellow and brown light bulbs to simulate dates. Some 120 small tables were distributed across the manicured lawn, to be served by a battalion of as many uniformed waiters, recruited for the occasion, as one of them confided, by Groppi's. The majority of the 500 guests were Egyptian Government officials but included also the chiefs of diplomatic missions and a dozen or so representatives of American organizations in Egypt.

The two Presidents and their wives formed the receiving line to greet the guests. It was a unique experience for those of us who have lived through seven lean years of our Government's relations with Egypt to hear an Egyptian band play the Star Spangled Banner and the Egyptian national anthem as a prelude to the dinner. After dinner the guests followed the official party to another part of the spacious gardens where chairs and a platform had been erected to form an open-air theater for a program of entertainment which included performances by the Reda folk-dance group, two belly dancers and the Cairo Jazz Band.

But the pomp and the ceremony were not without a lighter, domestic flavor. A separate course of okra and meat stew, a favorite Egyptian dish, intruded itself into the more formal menu of ox-tail soup, loup-de-mer, roast turkey, etc. According to his own preference, one could select either water or lemonade with which to participate in the formal toasts proposed by the two Presidents. Nagua Fuad, currently the most popular belly dancer in Egypt, came down from the platform to put on an individual demonstration of her talents before Secretary Kissinger, to the great amusement of President Nixon.

Many Egyptians have used the occasion of President Nixon's visit to express their relief and satisfaction over the reestablishment of diplomatic relations with the United States. The visit has been interpreted locally as confirmation of the Egyptian Government's reorientation toward the West, with which they have always felt a natural affinity, after a period of the unnatural, formal and strictly-business atmosphere which has prevailed in Egypt's foreign relations over the last few years.

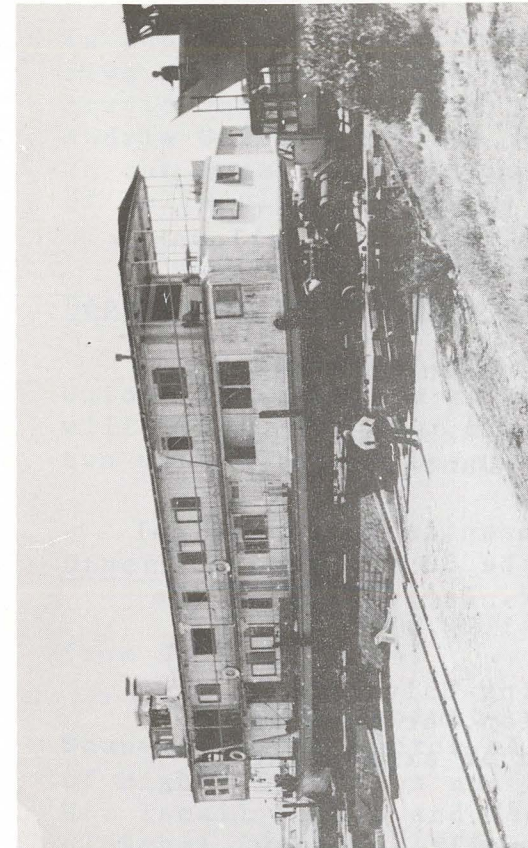
A full-length documentary of the visit will be assembled and shown in Cairo theatres.

The morning following President Nixon's departure from Egypt the flags, banners and triumphal arches were taken down. And yet at this writing, one week later, the billboards bearing the photographs of the two Presidents and the flags of their two countries, erected by the Ministry of Information, still look down on the major midans of Cairo. There is a certain reluctance to ring down the final curtain on the visit, a desire to let the memory linger for a few more days on what was the biggest hafla in years... and possibly the most significant.

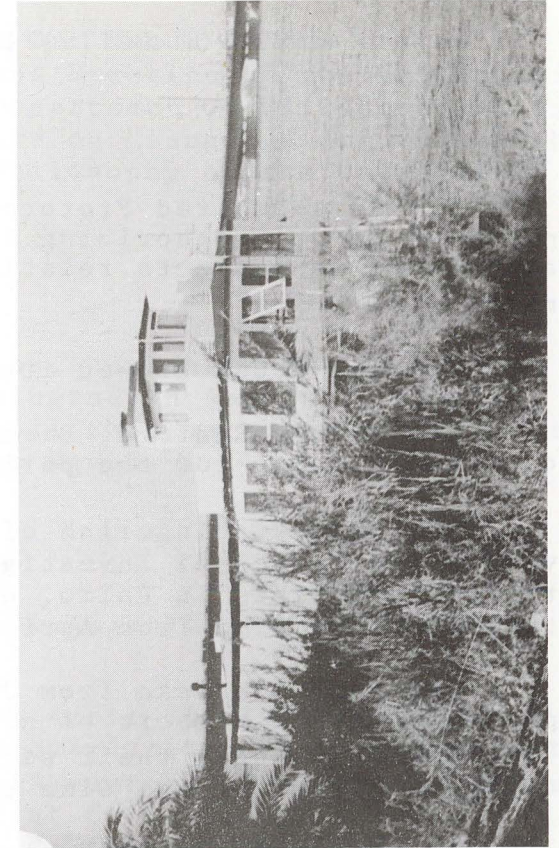
PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE FOSTAT

The Fostat has been used by ARCE-sponsored expeditions, including those at Mendes, Hierakonpolis, and Fustat for several years. Currently it is the home of the staff of "Excavations in the Pyramid Area at Giza", directed by Professor Hans Goedicke of Johns Hopkins University.

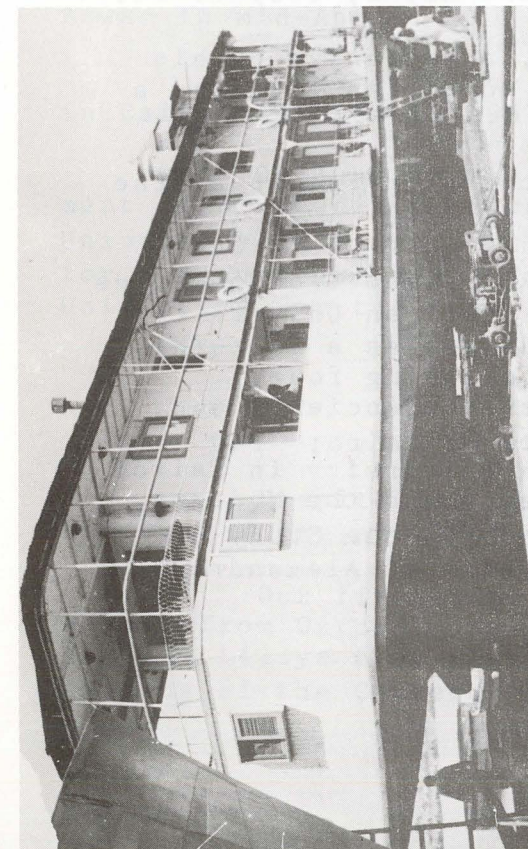
1. The Fostat in the Canal Naval Construction yards for overhaul, scraping and painting. Zareh Misketian at foot of ladder.
2. The Fostat on the boatyard ramp. Kent Weeks, in foreground, assesses the task ahead.
3. The Fostat, back at its mooring, freshly painted, with tarps battened down to protect expedition personnel from the mid-summer Egyptian sun.
4. The Fostat, moored upstream from the University Bridge. Belmont Building in background.



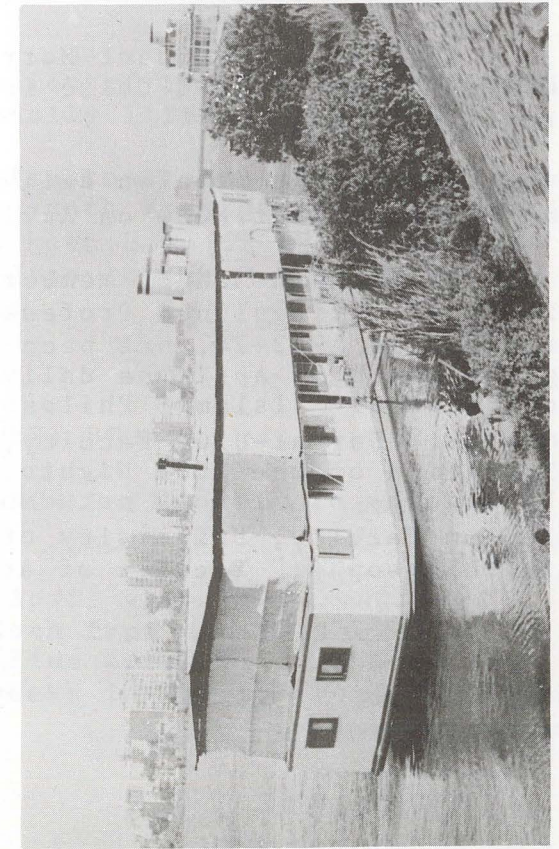
The Fostat on the boatyard ramp. Kent Weeks, in foreground, assesses the task ahead.



The Fostat, moored upstream from the University Bridge. Belmont Building in background.



The Fostat in the Canal Naval Construction Company yards for overhaul, scraping and painting. Toto Misketian at foot of ladder.



The Fostat, back at its mooring, freshly painted, with tarps battened down to protect the Goedicke Expedition from the mid-summer Egyptian sun.

NOTES ON ACTIVITIES IN EGYPT

ARCE

The long-awaited Protocol between the ARCE and the Government of Egypt, authorizing the ARCE to sponsor a fellowship program as well as projects relating to archeology, was signed on June 5.

Chicago House closed its 1973-74 season on April 15.

Dr. Donald Redford, Director of the Akhenaten Temple Project, was in Cairo for the period May 6 - June 18.

Dr. Owen J. Gingerich of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory and Principal Investigator for the Survey of Arabic Scientific Manuscripts in Cairo, of which Dr. David King is the Director, visited Cairo from April 26 - May 1.

Dr. Hans Goedicke from Johns Hopkins University, accompanied by other members of his expedition, arrived in Cairo on June 8 to begin their second season of excavating in the southeast corner of the Giza complex.

Ms. Marianne Eaton Francis, completing her work on Representation of Statuary in Ancient Egyptian Relief and Painting, and Mr. David P. Silverman, whose project has been Unpublished Non-Literary Hieratic Texts of the First Intermediate Period and the Middle Kingdom, left Cairo on April 29 and May 2, respectively.

ARCE Vice President Morroe Berger, accompanied by his son Edward, again visited Cairo from May 21 to 26, en route to a conference in Iran.

Dr. George Scanlon delivered a lecture on Fustat at the Italian Cultural Institute on April 25.

Dr. Muhsin Mahdi, member of the ARCE Executive Committee and Visiting Distinguished Professor at the American University in Cairo during 1973-74, has been in great demand as a lecturer. During the month of April he delivered the following four public lectures: "Islamic Philosophy between the Ancients and the Moderns," Dar al-Ulum Faculty, University of Cairo; "The Oral Tradition of the 1001 Nights," American University in Cairo; "The Philosophy of History between the Ancients and the Moderns," Dar al-Ulum Faculty, University of Cairo; and "On the Study of Islamic Philosophy," Faculty of Arts, University of Alexandria.

In addition, during April and May, Dr. Mahdi held a series of five seminars on "The Principles and Practice of the Edition of Arabic Philosophic Texts" in the Department of Philosophy, Alexandria University, and four seminars on "Language and Philosophy" in the Departments of Arabic and Philosophy at the University of Heliopolis, Cairo.

Department of Antiquities

The Tutankhamen exhibition, currently in the Soviet Union, is scheduled to open in Leningrad on August 1, where it will remain for four months, and will then be taken to Kiev for two months before being returned to Egypt.

Other

President and Mrs. Nixon paid a state visit to Egypt from June 12 to 14.

In a Cabinet reshuffle on April 26, 1974, Dr. Ismail Ghanem, former Rector of Ein Shems University, was named Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research. The Foreign Minister, Mr. Ismail Fahmy, and the Minister of Culture, Dr. Youssef el-Sebai, were not affected by the Cabinet changes.

Dr. Robert R. Garvey, Jr., Executive Secretary of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and U. S. Representative on the Philae Committee, attended a meeting of the Committee in Aswan in mid-April.

On June 12 the sequestration of the American University in Cairo, imposed in 1967, was formally lifted.

On June 26 the Board of Trustees announced the appointment of Dr. Cecil K. Byrd as the seventh President of the American University in Cairo. Dr. Byrd has been Dean of the Faculties for the current year and has served as Acting President of the University for the last five months.

THE CENTER'S GUEST BOOK

Despite the paucity of ARCE Fellows this year, the Center had its share of visitors.

Our first guests during April were Prof. and Mrs. R. Walzer from Oxford. Mrs. Robert Koch from New York and Mr. William Lillys from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, both old friends of the Center, spent two weeks in Cairo. Prof. and Mrs.

Elmer Edel stopped off on their way home from Aswan, where they had been working in the Tombs of the Nobles. Prof. Donadoni dropped in during one of his periodic visits to Egypt. Miss Trudy Rubin, about whom we had received a letter from former Ambassador Richard H. Nolte, arrived as an Alicia Patterson Foundation Fellow, on leave from the Christian Science Monitor. Prof. and Mrs. Arthur A. Gordon from the University of California in Berkeley and Prof. and Mrs. William A. Ward from the American University in Beirut spent some time in Cairo working on projects in the Egyptian Museum, for which advance preparations had been made by the Center. Miss Joan L. Borum of the Washington, D. C., office of the American Friends of the Middle East, stopped by the Center. Mr. William Mares of the Adlai Stevenson Institute and co-author of Passing Brave, visited the Center accompanied by his wife, Ms. Chris Hadsel, daughter of our Ambassador to Ghana. Nor were we neglected by representatives of the U.S. Government, which included: Dr. Paul N. Perrot, Assistant Secretary for Museum Programs in the Smithsonian Institution, who was visiting Egypt at the invitation of Dr. Gamal Mokhtar; Dr. George N. Atiyeh of the Library of Congress; Mr. Joseph F. Belmonte of the Office of Education; and Ms. April Glaspie of the American Embassy. Also visiting the Center during April were Mr. Thomas D. Mullins of London, Miss Louise Chinn of New York City and Miss Grace Huxtable, completing her tour at Chicago House in Luxor.

Dr. Sami Hamarneh of the Smithsonian Institution and ARCE Fellow in 1966-67 was among our first visitors in May. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Dietrich, friends of the University Museum, Pennsylvania, stopped in for assistance in arranging a program for their brief visit in Cairo. Prof. Richard P. Mitchell, of the University of Michigan, was particularly interested in the future of the ARCE fellowship program. Dr. Fayza Haikal of the University of Cairo and the two Drs. Arnold from the German Institute called to discuss plans for the December conference on Egyptology to be sponsored by the University Museum and the ARCE. Dr. Shafik Megally of Cairo University called in connection with the third volume of the ARCE-sponsored project Arabic Writing Today. Dr. Grant E. Mayer of the Yale Peabody Museum was in Cairo to investigate the possibilities of renewing the Yale concession for the expedition on prehistory in the Fayoum. Mr. Edward B. Fiske, Religion Editor of the New York Times, came to the Center to be briefed on our activities. Mr. Ronald Goodman of the Smithsonian called on the Center for assistance in preparing an exhibit of the Wissa Wassef tapestries which will be sent shortly to the U. S. Dr. Ramadan Saad, Chief Inspector for Upper Egypt in the Department of Antiquities,

called at the Center during one of his trips to Cairo. Other visitors to the Center during May included: Dr. Perez Claudine of the Institut Pasteur in Paris; Mr. Hassan Foda, Member of Parliament; Mr. Kentar Bently of Lockheed, Houston, Texas; Mr. Del Haslbeck of Short Hills, New Jersey; Mrs. Andree Bichara of Cairo; Dr. Sam Bryan of the International Film Foundation in New York City; Mr. John Waterbury of the American University Field Service; Dr. and Mrs. Elbaki Hermassi of the University of California in Berkeley; Dr. Lillian Wyshak of UCLA; Dr. Charles E. Butterworth of the University of Maryland, ARCE Fellow 1964-65 and 1971-72; Mr. Robert Anderson of London; and Engineer Boutros Salah of the Department of Antiquities in Luxor.

During June, Mr. John F. Berry from the University of Michigan, recipient of an ARCE grant for 1974-75, in Cairo for the summer CASA program, called. Dr. William L. Moran of Harvard University, with whom the Center had corresponded, spent two days working on the Amarna tablets in the Egyptian Museum. Dr. Hans Goedicke of Johns Hopkins University arrived with members of his Giza expedition which included: Mrs. Goedicke, Dr. Al Hoerth, Miss Jody Shiffman, Miss Debbie Kasen, and Mr. Kenneth Hoglund, with others to follow. Miss Siham Shenawani, lawyer in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs who assisted in drawing up the ARCE Protocol, accepted our invitation to call at the Center. Major General Abdel Fattah Riad, Deputy Director of the Criminal Evidence Department in the Ministry of Interior and a keen photographer of Islamic architecture, called to enquire whether the Center might collaborate with him on a publication. Other visitors to the Center during June included: Prof. W. McBain of the American University in Cairo; Miss Susan Patla, oceanographer from the University of California in San Diego; and Dr. Shahinaz Youssef of Cairo University.

مركز البحوث الشرقية بمصر

٢ ميدان قصر الدوبارة - جاردن سيتي
تليفون رقم ٢٣٠٥٢ - ٢٨٢٣٩ - القاهرة ج.م.ع.

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